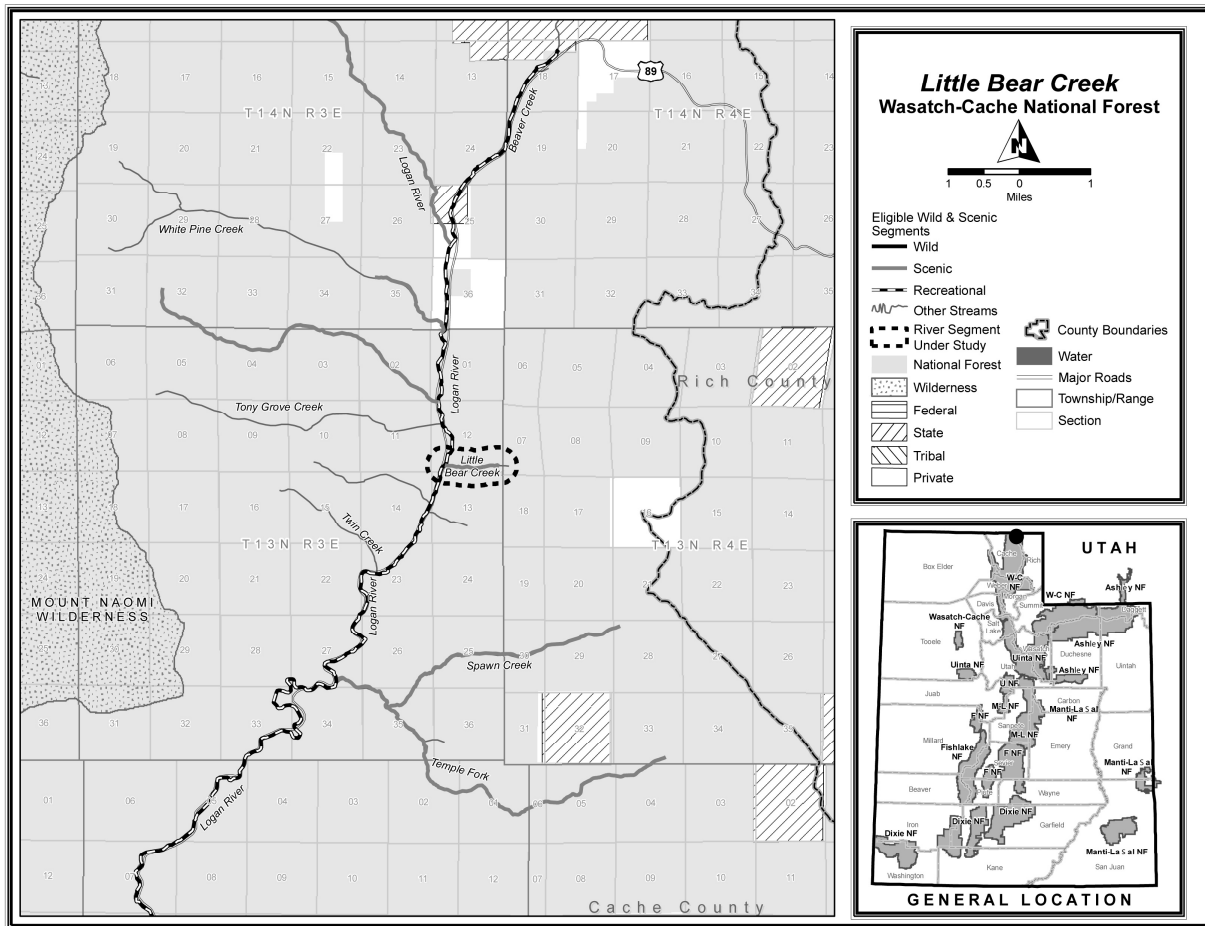


Little Bear Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Little Bear Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 0.8 miles, from Little Bear Spring to confluence with Logan River

Eligible: Same

Location:

| | | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|--------------------------|-------|
| Little Bear Creek | Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah | | Congressional District 1 | |
| | Start | End | Classification | Miles |
| Segment 1 | SE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 12, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM | SW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 12, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM | Scenic | 0.8 |

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within these corridors, and the lower reaches of some provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – Fish species include brown and brook trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable fish value. This segment is a scenic stream because it has or is:

- Free of impoundment, but one diversion exists within the corridor, but not on the segment
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing or hay production.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest. No ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – Little Bear Creek is located on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah. It flows entirely through national forest lands.

| River Mile | Ownership | Acres |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 0-0.8 | Wasatch-Cache National Forest | 374 |
| | Total: | 374 acres |

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of Little Bear Creek and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Water is diverted for use at the USU Forestry Field Camp. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Service Road 20004 provides access to the Utah State University Forestry Camp. This camp has been used by the Forestry Department at USU for field camp which is operated under a Special Use Permit. There are no Forest system trails along this stream segment. The motorized Little Bear Trail is above this segment.

Recreation Activities – There are dispersed camp sites within the bottom portion of this segment.

Grazing Activities – Sheep and cattle graze all of the area within this stream corridor. The upper two thirds of the stream are within the Little Bear Sheep Allotment, and the lower portion of the stream is within the Logan Canyon Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor. Parts of the Utah State University Forestry Camp is within the stream corridor. There have been historical timber harvests that are visible from this stream segment.

Special Designations – Little Bear Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 0.2 miles of the lower portion of this stream segment are within the Scenic Byway corridor of Logan Canyon.

Approximately 0.7 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ½ mile wide stream corridor and within the lower portion of this stream segment near the confluence with the Logan River:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat Emphasis: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already

developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site specifically defined riparian management objectives.

3.1W consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ½ mile wide stream corridor:

Management Prescriptions 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tailor management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ½ mile wide stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.2 u Undeveloped Terrestrial Habitats Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

3.2U consists of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This stream segment is entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest Land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife was associated with Little Bear Creek and provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft inventory. This new fish data supplemented the Forest's conclusion that the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout meta-population is important at the local scale and is therefore and outstandingly remarkable value.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Little Bear Creek. Cache County and others did not support designation

During the public comment period for the Draft EIS comments were received from individuals supporting the designation of Little Bear Creek. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Little Bear Creek.

Cache County opposed designation stating the segment was too short and already protected. An individual also opposed designation because of the many uses currently nearby and the potential for precluding future opportunities.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of the Little Bear Creek, a tributary to the Logan River complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for the Logan River and current Forest management. The designation also complements the Scenic Byway corridor at the bottom of the stream segment.

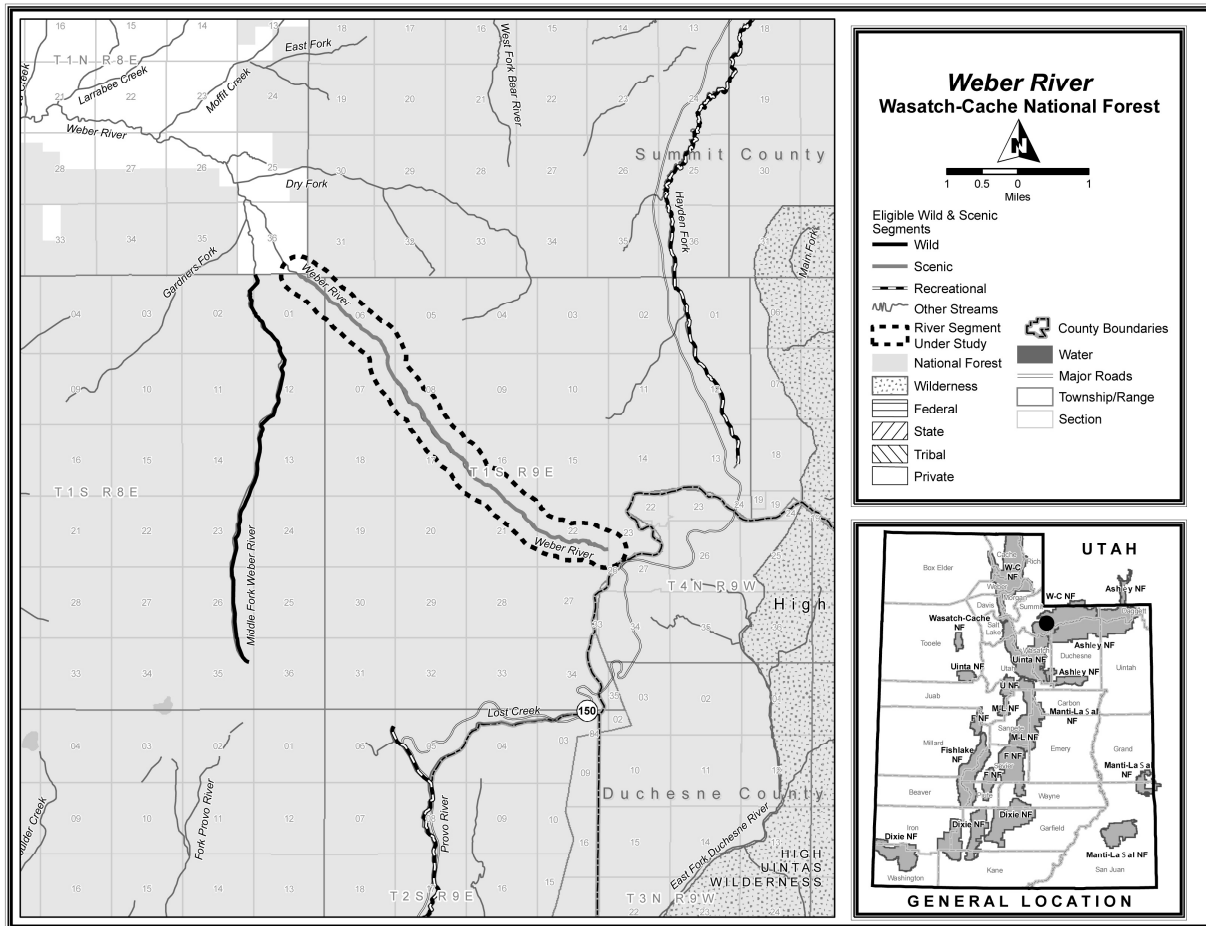
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment—when combined with White Pine Creek, Beaver Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Spawn Creek, and the Logan River—contribute to the Logan River basin integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Local groups such as the Utah State University, Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well as trash pick up.

Main Fork Weber River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Main Fork Weber River

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.3 miles, source to Holiday Park (Forest boundary)

Eligible: Same

Location:

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Main Fork Weber River | Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger and Evanston Districts, Summit County, Utah | | Congressional District 1 | |
| | Start | End | Classification | Miles |
| Segment 1 | SE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 22, T 1 S, R 9 E, SLM | NW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 1, T 2 S, R 8 E, SLM | Scenic | 6.3 |

Physical Description of River Segment:

This segment of the Weber River flows between 8,400 to 7,900 feet from its source in a small glaciated basin near Reid's Meadow to the Forest boundary. The upper Weber River is a high energy confined mountain stream. Flow patterns are normal snow-dominated with pool-riffle-run structure. It is generally

confined descending through a steep walled canyon for much of its length. Uplands are characterized by Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, and spruce-fir communities with aspen stands scattered throughout lower elevations along this segment. Riparian communities are generally narrow and dominated by cottonwoods, thin leaf alder, and tall willows. A few small meadows are found along the stream. Vegetation is natural in appearance, except in the vicinity of Holiday Park. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species occur on this river segment. Goshawk, black bear and small numbers of moose can be found. There are no threatened, endangered or sensitive fish or wildlife species present.

ELIGIBILITY

This section includes determination of river's free-flow and whether or not it possesses one or more outstandingly remarkable value.

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from major channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – Visitors to the river corridor enjoy varied scenery that range from its source in a glacial basin to a densely timbered forest with steep and rugged canyon walls to lower elevations riparian communities of cottonwoods and alders dotted by creek-side meadows. The variety of vegetation and steep cliffs capturing a high energy mountain stream offers memorable views. While outside the corridor, from the upper reaches of the stream, vistas of Bald Mountain and Reids Peak can be seen that complement the scenic values present in the stream corridor.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

The segment of Weber River on National Forest is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a scenic river because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This stream segment is located entirely within the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger and Evanston Districts, Summit County, Utah.

| River Mile | Ownership | Acres |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 0-6.3 | Wasatch-Cache National Forest | 2016 |
| Total: | | 2016 acres |

This segment is entirely on National Forest System land, but ends at the boundary to private land. This private land is zoned for Agriculture-Grazing 160 (AG-160) by Summit County.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible Weber River segment is within a high potential oil and gas area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities in this vicinity on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are four small reservoirs with dams that are located on headwater lakes above this segment. Their operation has an insignificant effect on stream flows. There are no other stream channel modifications present. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – There is no developed recreation available within this segment. Parallel access is provided by Forest trail 079. The hiking is generally through lodgepole pine forest, connecting the Mirror Lake Highway with the recreational properties at Holiday Park. Access to the segment is somewhat limited by the private land at the segment terminus as hikers must use the Gardner Fork trailhead then walk down a short stretch of road to access the forest trail. From the Mirror Lake access visitors use the Pass Lake Trailhead.

Recreation Activities – This segment of the stream is not suitable for any boating or tubing. Hunting occurs during the season. Fishing and recreation use is light.

Grazing Activities – There is no grazing within this stream corridor.

Other Resource Activities – There has been fuels treatment work conducted along the Forest boundary with the private land that include thinning to provide more defensible space to the Alpine Acres subdivision. There are no other current or planned projects by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest within this stream corridor. There is no commercial fishing or hunting operations on this section of the Weber River.

Special Designations – The Main Fork Weber River is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 6.3 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

The area adjacent to the stream segment is recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

The headwaters of this segment are easily accessed by the Pass Lake Trail located on the Mirror Lake Highway.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the majority of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness-- These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use, and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor near the Forest boundary:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.1w Watershed Emphasis: consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor near headwaters and the Scenic Byway:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and trail or management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, an area that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. As of 2000 the population was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There are a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, 2003. The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This entire stream segment and corridor is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Many letters expressed support for eligibility for the Main Fork Weber River during the Draft Inventory study. It was added as an eligible stream based on its scenic qualities as a scenic river in the Final Inventory Study.

Public comments received during the comment period for the Draft EIS supported designation for the Main Fork Weber River segment because designation would complement the recommended wilderness status. Other reasons cited were the river's incomparable beauty and wildness. Summit County confirmed with Weber Basin Water Conservancy that there were no future planned developments that could conflict with designation.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Main Fork Weber River supports current management of the stream corridor by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and the State of Utah's management for drinking water source protection.

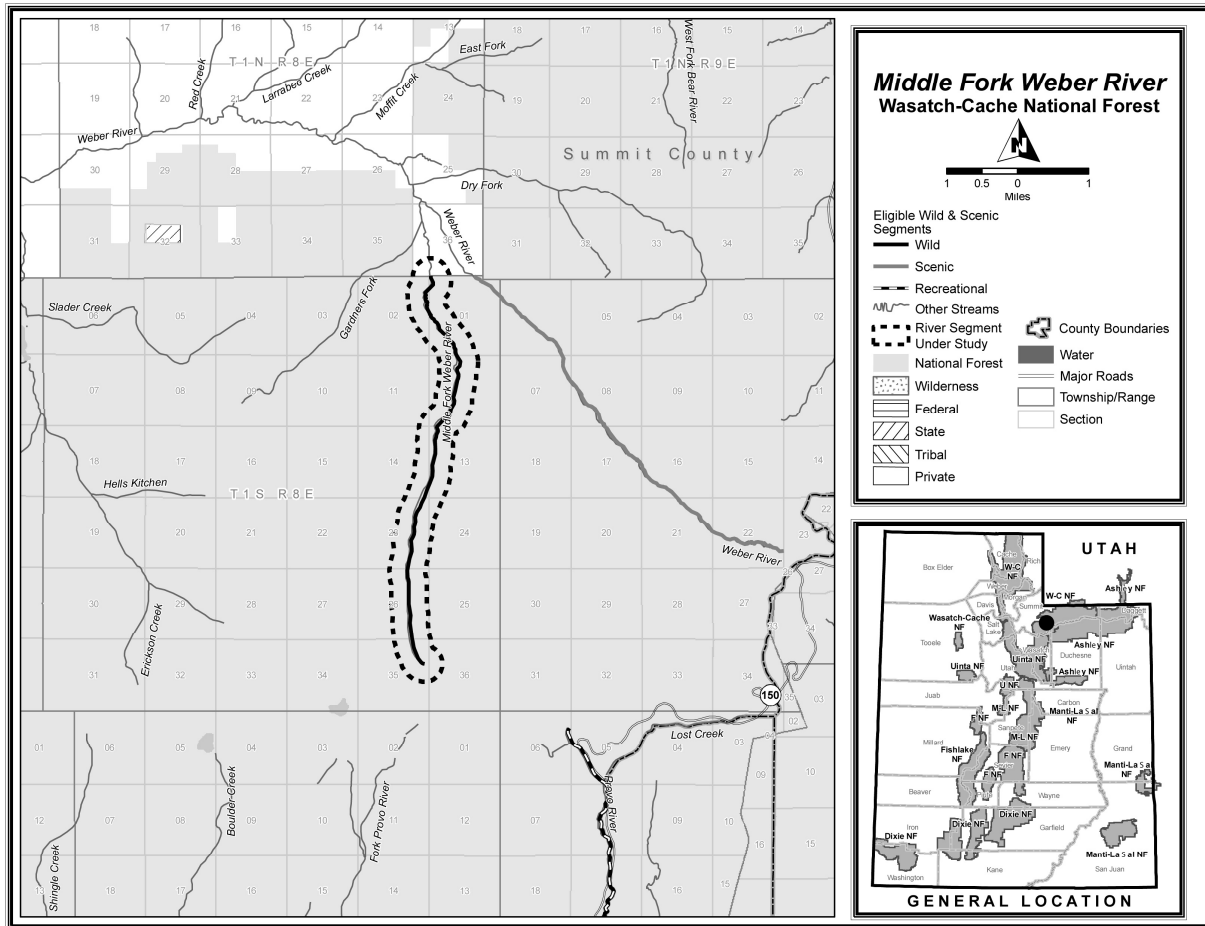
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Designation of the Main Fork Weber River in combination with the Middle Fork Weber River provides for basin integrity because the main stem and a major tributary of the Weber River would be protected at their headwaters.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

The local Kamas Valley Backcountry Horsemen have worked to improve trail conditions in this area. A hiking club from Park City has conducted a trail condition survey to help with the trail maintenance program for the Kamas Ranger District.

Middle Fork Weber River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Middle Fork Weber River

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.0 miles, source to Forest boundary

Eligible: Same

Location:

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Middle Fork Weber River | Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger District, Summit County, Utah | | Congressional District 1 | |
| | Start | End | Classification | Miles |
| Segment 1 | SE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 35, T 1 S, R 8 E, SLM | NW¼ NW ¼ Sect. 1, T 1 S, R 8 E, SLM | Wild | 6.0 |

Physical Description of River Segment:

The stream follows a relatively gentle gradient. Vegetation is dominated by spruce, fir, and lodgepole pine. There are some aspen groves, a few small meadows and a narrow willow community along the stream. Wildlife includes deer, moose and elk plus numerous small and non-game species. The corridor contains goshawk, three-toed woodpecker, lynx and wolverine habitat, but no confirmed sightings of these sensitive species have been made. Tributaries within the Middle Fork drainage contain brook trout

and cutthroat trout (possibly Bonneville cutthroat trout, a sensitive species). The fishery is rated class 3. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plants or animals are known to occur.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – The river corridor offers a pristine visual appeal with a variety of views throughout the corridor. Seasonal variations enhance the scenic quality in the corridor. Along the route lush meadows and open woodlands enhance the attractiveness of the corridor. A hidden waterfall cascades 15 feet to a large pool contributing to the overall scenic quality of the creek-side environment. Openings in the vegetation allow scenic views down valley. Outside of the corridor striking views of rugged country are offered from the upper reach of this stream near Mt. Watson.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

The segment of Weber River on National Forest is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a wild river because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value is acceptable.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing or hay production.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest, no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This stream segment is entirely within the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger District, Summit County, Utah.

| River Mile | Ownership | Acres |
|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 0-6.0 | Wasatch-Cache National Forest | 1920 |
| | Total: | 1920 acres |

This segment is entirely on National Forest System land, but ends at the boundary to private land. This private land is zoned for Agriculture-Grazing 160 (AG-160) by Summit County.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible Middle Fork Weber River segment is within a high potential oil and gas area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as

private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities in this vicinity on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – There is no road access to the corridor. The Gardner Fork Trailhead provides access to forest trail 076 which parallels the stream. There are cabins and homes within the private land portion of the corridor. There are no known historic or prehistoric sites within the corridor.

Recreation Activities – Several trails provide access to the Lakes County: The Gardner Fork Trailhead provides access to forest trail 076 which parallels the stream. Trail 077 branches off the Middle Fork Weber River Trail to Abes Lake. Trail 076 connects with Trail 091 (the Bear River-Smith Fork Trail), Trail 066 (Lake Country Trail), and Trail 075 (the North Fork Provo Trail).

Grazing Activities – There is no grazing along this stream segment.

Other Resource Activities – There has been fuels treatment work conducted along the Forest boundary with the private land that include thinning to provide more defensible space to the Alpine Acres subdivision. There are no other current or planned projects by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – The Middle Fork Weber River is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

This stream corridor is within an inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

The area adjacent to the stream segment is recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the majority of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness-- These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for

designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use, and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor near the Forest boundary:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.1W Watershed Emphasis: consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the upper portion of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is

allowed.

(S2.6) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.6-1) Motorized uses, including snowmobiling, are allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G2.6-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.6-3) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to mimic conditions within the historic range of variability and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, an area that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. As of 2000 the population was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis, and Bear River.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by

Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This stream segment is entirely within the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

There were public comments in support of designation for this stream in the 1999 Draft Inventory.

Public comments received during the comment period for the Draft EIS supported designation for the Middle Fork Weber River segment because designation would complement the recommended wilderness status. Other reasons cited were the river's scenic and hydrologic values. Summit County confirmed with Weber Basin Water Conservancy that there were no future planned developments that could conflict with designation.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Middle Fork Weber River supports current forest management of Recommended Wilderness, watershed and aquatic habitat protection and roadless areas and the State of Utah's management for drinking water source protection.

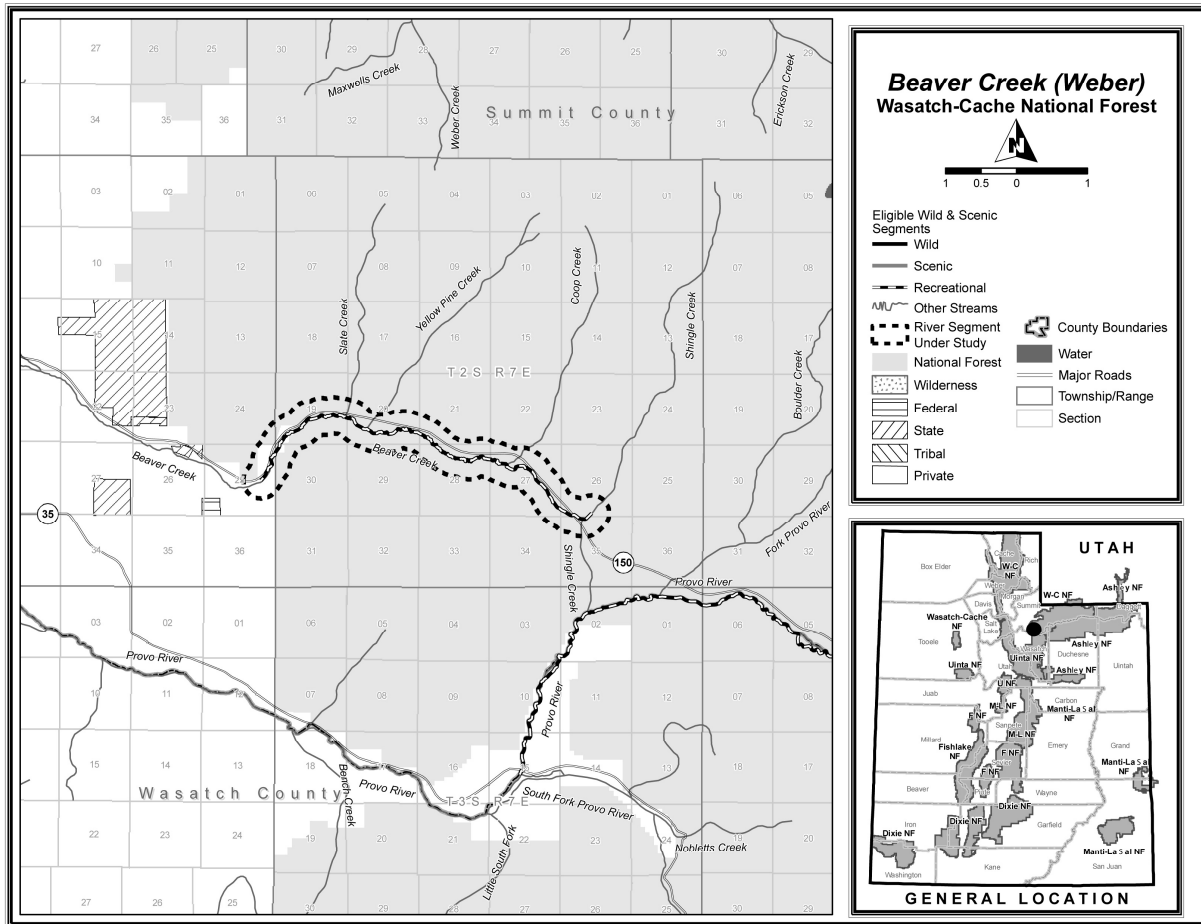
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Designation of the Middle Fork Weber River in combination with the Main Fork Weber River provides for basin integrity because the main stem and a major tributary of the Weber River would be protected at the headwaters. Designation would add further protection to this stream corridor.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

The local Kamas Valley Backcountry Horsemen have worked to improve trail conditions in this area. A hiking club from Park City has conducted a trail condition survey to help with the trail maintenance program for the Kamas Ranger District.

Beaver Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Beaver Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.4 miles, from source to Forest boundary

Eligible: Same

Location:

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Beaver Creek | Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger District, Summit County, Utah | | Congressional District 1 | |
| | Start | End | Classification | Miles |
| Segment 1 | SE ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 26, T 2 N, R 7 E, SLM | NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 30, T 2 N, R 7 E, SLM | Recreational | 6.4 |

(Updated GIS data corrects 6.8 miles listed in the 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest.)

Physical Description of River Segment:

Beaver Creek lies within a fairly broad valley. Lodgepole pine, Ponderosa pine, juniper, oak, Manzanita, and sage/forb meadows occur along the lower reaches. The Ponderosa pine community represents the westernmost location of the species in the Uinta mountain range. Broad floodplains with willow flats

occur in some areas. Wildlife includes deer, moose and elk plus numerous small and non- game species. No threatened, endangered or sensitive plant or animal species are known to occur within the area. Fish species include cutthroat trout, sculpin, mountain sucker, long nose dace, and mountain whitefish. The stream is ranked as Class III, an important fishery.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Recreation – Visitors to the Beaver Creek river corridor enjoy an extensive variety of activities throughout all the seasons. Developed facilities are plentiful throughout the reach. Access to the river is frequent and easy. The numerous associated opportunities for non-river related activities add to its value. This recreation value is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Recreation

This segment of the Beaver Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a recreational river because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Some existing impoundment or diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions or other modification of the waterway remains free-flowing and generally natural and riverine in appearance.
- Some developments, substantial evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings of farm structures is acceptable.
- Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural uses.
- Lands may have been developed for the full range of forestry uses.
- Readily accessible by road or railroad.
- The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks as well as bridge crossings and other river access points is acceptable.
- Water quality is sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The segment is located on the Kamas Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. Approximately 1.3 miles of this reach is within privately owned lands; the remainder flows through National Forest system lands.

| River Mile | Ownership | Acres |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 0-5.5 | Wasatch-Cache National Forest | 1825 |
| 5.5-6.4 | Private Land | 120 |
| | Total: | 1945 acres |

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river

stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within 1/4 mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

The private land is zoned for Agriculture-Grazing 160 (AG-160) by Summit County.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible Beaver Creek segment is within a high potential oil and gas area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities in this vicinity on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – While no major channel alterations on Beaver Creek are present, the proximity of the Mirror Lake Highway may have resulted in some minor channel alterations. Shingle Creek has been diverted into Beaver Creek, so flows in Beaver Creek are at times much heavier than natural. The stream itself is not impounded or significantly diverted in this reach. The presence of road encroachments, four bridge crossings and a few diversions have a minor affect on the natural flow of the stream.

Designation may affect the ability to control beaver that back up water next to Highway 150. Irrigators have a diversion at the confluence of Beaver Creek and Shingle Creek that regulates the water flowing down Beaver Creek. Designation may affect the ability of irrigators to determine where water will be diverted. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – The Mirror Lake Highway (Utah Highway 150) parallels this segment from Kamas to within about 1.5 miles of the stream source. This corridor contains five campgrounds and several trails. A groomed and very popular cross-country ski trail follows the corridor and several ungroomed trails branch off from this trail; they receive heavy use.

Recreation Activities – Recreation use in the corridor is very heavy. People use the river for fishing and some water sports play and to provide a relaxing environment. While no whitewater activity is present, the river serves as a backdrop for water play and contributes to the natural setting. In many places along the river or the adjacent highway overlooks of the river or nearby scenes are very enjoyable and offer a pleasing contrast of landforms and vegetation. There is no commercial recreation provided locally. No commercial fishing or hunting operations are present.

A variety of recreational opportunities are present, including developed campgrounds, a hiking/ATV trail (used in winter for cross country skiing), and moderate to good fishing. In the winter visitors enjoy cross-country skiing and snowmobiling along groomed trails. The area is an excellent setting for outdoor recreation. All-terrain vehicle drivers, mountain bikers, and hikers all use nearby trails in large numbers.

Fishing is moderate to heavy. There are no known historic or prehistoric sites in the corridor.

Grazing Activities – The entire stream corridor is in the Kamas Valley Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. While some livestock grazing impacts occur, sheep/cattle tend to have a minor effect on the conditions of the riparian communities in the area. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – The Ponderosa Pine Restoration project is ongoing within the upper portion of this stream corridor. The source of Beaver Creek is within the project boundary and then flows out of the southwestern edge of the project boundary. This project incorporates vegetation thinning, pile burning, and a low intensity understory burn to help restore the ponderosa pine stand located in this area. The Roadside Salvage is a project also within this stream corridor and focuses on removing dead or dying trees from the immediate roadside area of Highway 150 to reduce the threat of trees falling on the road and vehicles.

Special Designations – Beaver Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

The area adjacent to the entire Beaver Creek segment is recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

The Mirror Lake Highway (Highway 150) runs within the Beaver Creek stream corridor and is a State Scenic Byway.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land adjacent to the Scenic Byway:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tailor management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land in the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1a consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.1w Watershed Emphasis: consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the north side of the stream near the intersection of Mirror Lake Highway with the Upper Setting Road:

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land and the upper end of this segment:

Management Prescription 4.3 Emphasis on Backcountry Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities in a more remote and isolated setting where visitors can obtain a higher degree of solitude and the environment is in a near natural setting. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights of other visitors are low and sounds of other users are low to moderate. Visitors are largely managed off-site, with signs and regulations posted at area boundaries. Management of recreation impacts is of a semi-primitive nature with regulation of use a

priority management tool over site modification. Visitor self-reliance is high. Management visibility is low with backcountry ranger patrols focusing on monitoring and maintaining natural conditions and processes.

(S4.3) New recreation development is not allowed.

(G4.3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuels treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning as compatible with the backcountry recreation opportunity and natural setting desired.

(G4.3-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.3-3) New trail construction is allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, which occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. As of 2000 the population was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions

numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The majority of this stream segment is on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land and will be managed to maintain the integrity of the stream corridor. The level of development allowed on the private land within the corridor is managed by the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning regulations for AG-160.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One comment for Beaver Creek to the 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System related to eligibility describing that the amount of development in the stream corridor was too high for WSR status. The Forest found this segment eligible for recreational classification based on the level of development and road access.

During scoping a water conservancy district stated its opposition to any designation that would change the current diversion practice of Shingle Creek.

Comments received during the public comment period for the Draft EIS oppose designation of the Beaver Creek segment. Members of the Beaver and Shingle Creek Irrigation Company have expressed concerns about the designation of Beaver Creek stating that designation could impact their ability to manage diversions that they are dependent on for irrigation and stock purposes. The State of Utah expressed concerns that designation would impact the state's ability to maintain or expand the highway.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Beaver Creek supports current management of the stream corridor by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, the Scenic Byway, and the State of Utah's management for drinking water source protection.

Designation of Beaver Creek may conflict with how irrigators manage and divert water. Designation may also affect the ability of road workers to control the beaver and their dams which back up water next to Highway 150.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity. Designation of this stream would contribute little to basin integrity because of the highly altered flow pattern created by past water projects within the basin.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

The local Kamas Valley Backcountry Horsemen have worked to improve trail conditions in this area. A hiking club from Park City has conducted a trail condition survey to help with the trail maintenance program for the Kamas Ranger District.